Doko Demo Doa
MINOR scanlations

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V

- Egao no Tameni -

By: Takase Yuka

V

~ Egao no Tameni ~

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Higashiyama High School
I CAN'T TOLERATE THIS ANY LONGER.
FOR ANY STUDENT, ATTENDANCE IS VITAL, BUT YOU HARDLY EVER CAME TO SCHOOL THIS YEAR.
I DON'T WANT TO SAY THIS, BUT UNFORTUNATELY, I HAVE NO OTHER OPTION...
HARUKA NISHIWAKI-SAN,
YOU HAVE TO REPEAT THE 10TH GRADE.
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YES.
YOU COULD PUT IT THAT WAY.
RE...
BY "REPEAT", DO YOU MEAN THAT...
I HAVE TO BE A 10TH GRADER FOR ANOTHER YEAR?
BUMP
STOP JOKING!

"REPEAT"...
...
THAT MEANS,
PROBABLY...
NO, IT'S NOT "PROBABLY", BUT,
IN APRIL, MIKI-KUN, THE GUY I LIKE, WILL DEFINITELY BECOME AN 11TH GRADER.
AND I'LL STILL BE IN THE 10TH GRADE?!

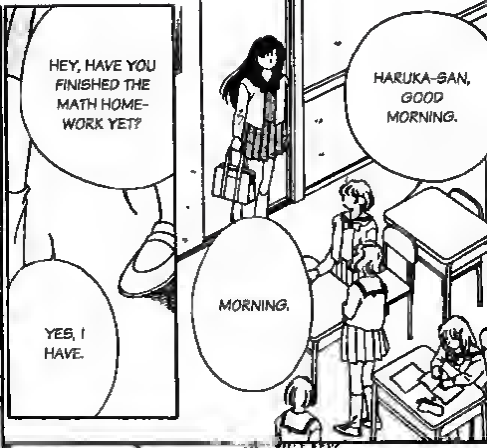
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS!

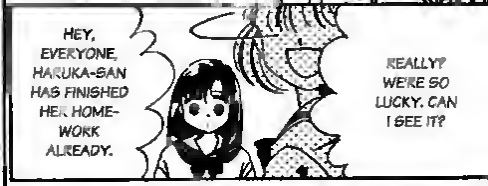
IT'S TRUE THAT I DIDN'T HAVE VERY HIGH ATTENDANCE SCORES.

FOR INSTANCE, LAST DECEMBER, I COULDN'T ATTEND SCHOOL FOR A WEEK BECAUSE I CAUGHT A COLD,
AS SOON AS I CAME BACK TO SCHOOL, I WAS HIT BY A CAR, BROKE EIGHT RIBS,
AND NEEDED THREE WHOLE MONTHS JUST FOR REHABILITATION.
IT WASN'T MY FAULT I COULDN'T COME TO SCHOOL!

I'LL TRANSFER TO ANOTHER SCHOOL!
IN THAT CASE...
UUUH.
EVEN THOUGH HE TRIED TO SOFTEN THE BLOW WITH THE WORD "REPEAT",
WHAT HE REALLY MEANT WAS "YOU FAILED".

AT THE END OF MY 10TH GRADE YEAR, I EXPERIENCED THE FEELING CALLED "FRUSTRATION" FOR THE FIRST TIME.
AND SO, I STARTED MY SECOND 10TH GRADE WITH "NO ENERGY" AT ALL.
GOOD MORNING!
1-A
MORNING!
YAMABUKI


HEY, HAVE YOU FINISHED THE MATH HOME-WORK YET?
YES, I HAVE.
HARUKA-SAN, GOOD MORNING.
MORNING.


HEY, EVERYONE, HARUKA-SAN HAS FINISHED HER HOME-WORK ALREADY.
REALLY? WE'RE SO LUCKY. CAN I SEE IT?

OF COURSE. I LEARNT HOW TO DO THOSE PROBLEMS LAST YEAR.
AWESOME! SHE'S DONE ALL THE PROBLEMS, AND THERE'S NO MISTAKES WHATSOEVER!

I WANT TO SEE IT TOO.
REALLY? CAN I SEE IT?
ME THREE.

WHEN DID IT BECOME SO CROWDED?

EVERYONE HERE THINKS I'M JUST A REGULAR CLASSMATE.
NOBODY HAS ANY IDEA THAT I'M A YEAR OLDER THAN THEM.
WHAT...
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
I LOOK UP TO YOU LIKE AN OLDER SISTER.
INDEPEN-DENT, YET RELIABLE.
HARUKA-SAN,
YOU'RE SO MATURE!
IS THAT SO?
THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR HELP. I WATCHED A MUSIC SHOW ALL NIGHT LONG, SO I COULDN'T FINISH MY HOMEWORK.

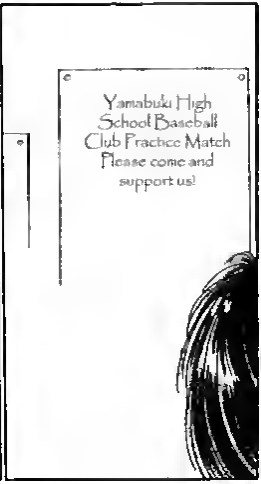
IN MY OLD SCHOOL, I FELL IN LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT WITH MIKI-KUN, WHO'S NOW MY EX-CLASSMATE.
I TRANSFERRED TO THIS SCHOOL BEFORE I EVEN GOT A CHANCE TO CONFESS MY LOVE TO HIM.
THIS GIRL IS HARUNA MATSUO, A SMALL, TALKATIVE GIRL. TO BE HONEST, I'M NOT USED TO DEALING WITH THIS TYPE OF PERSON.
I'm a big fan of Kimutaku-san, he's so cool!
I'M SO MATURE?
EVEN THOUGH I'M ONLY ONE YEAR OLDER THAN HER?

I THINK...
THE SOONER I GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL, THE BETTER.
AAAH, I REALLY MISS HIM.
THIS LESSON IS BORING.
AND I'M NOT USED TO MY YOUNGER CLASSMATES, EITHER.

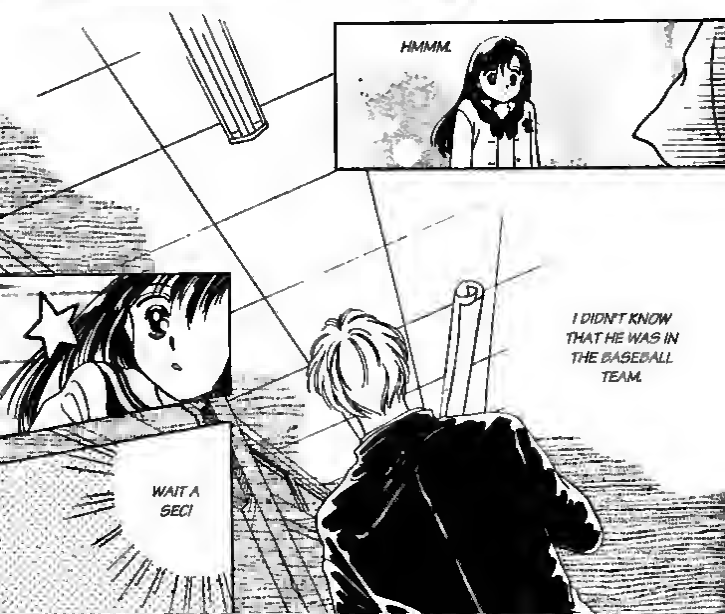
I HAVE A FEELING THAT,
SOMETHING GOOD WILL HAPPEN AFTER I GRADUATE.
DID I JUST STEP ON SOME-THING?
Clink
OOPS, SORRY.
YOU MUST HAVE STEPPED ON MY PIN.

THERE YOU GO. YOU'RE LUCKY IT DIDN'T HURT YOUR FOOT.
KYAAA!
SORRY, LET ME PULL IT OUT FOR YA.
I GUESS SO.
WAIT A SEC!
MY CLASS-MATE, KENTA ONO-KUN.
THIS BOY IS...
ON THE FIRST DAY OF CLASS, YOU WERE LATE AND TRIED TO SNEAK IN THROUGH THE WINDOW, REMEMBER?
OF COURSE I HAVE. IN FACT, YOURS WAS THE FIRST NAME I LEARNT!
I'M HERE, SENSEI!
IS ONO HERE?
YOU'VE KNOWN MY NAME ALREADY? COOL!
WHAT?
IF I'M NOT MIS-TAKEN, WE'RE CLASSMATES, AREN'T WE?
HARUKA NISHIWAKI-CHAN.. RIGHT? SORRY, I HAVEN'T LEARNT ALL MY CLASSMATE'S NAMES YET.

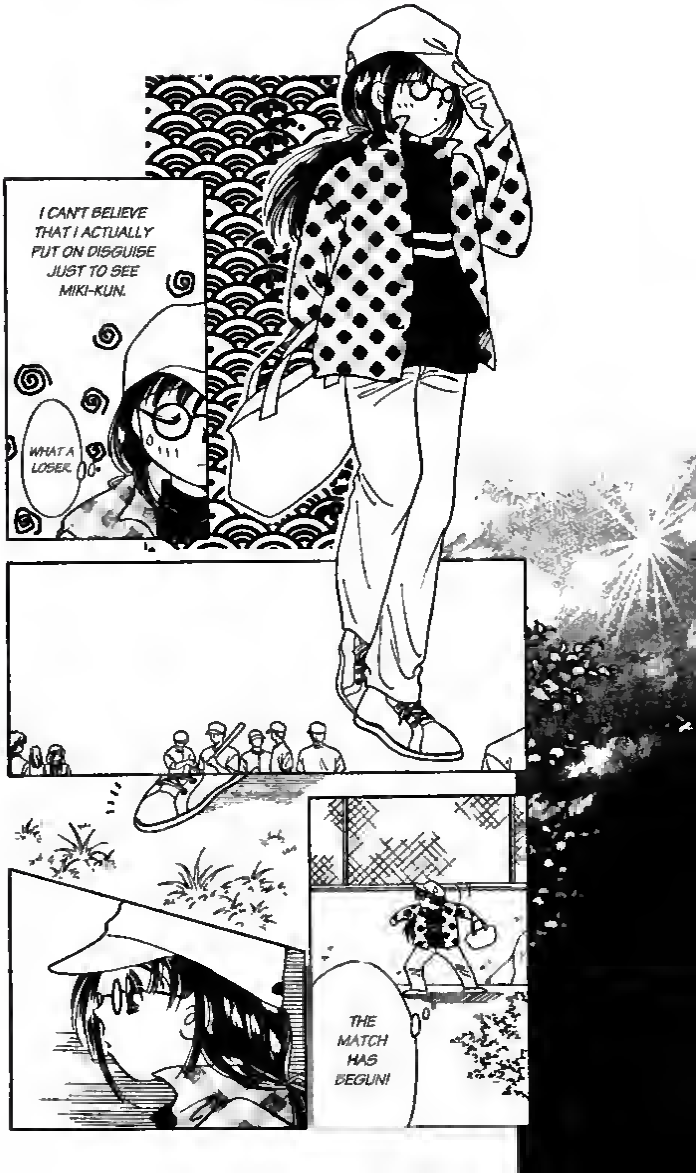
SEE YA.


Yamabuki High School Baseball Club Practice Match Please come and support us!

BY THE WAY, HARUKA-CHAN, AS A CLASSMATE, WILL YOU COME TO OUR MATCH AND SUPPORT US?
HUH?


HMMM.
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT HE WAS IN THE BASEBALL TEAM.
WAIT A SEC!

THEY'RE HAVING A MATCH WITH MY OLD SCHOOL.
YAMABUKI HIGH SCHOOL VS HIGASHIYAMA HIGH SCHOOL
Date: Next Sunday
Time: 1pm
Place: Yamabuki High School's field
THAT MEANS,
MIKI-KUN WILL DEFINITELY COME AS WELL.
AAAH, I DON'T WANT TO MEET WITH ANYONE ELSE BUT MIKI-KUN!
BUT THE OTHER HIGASHIYAMA STUDENTS MIGHT COME TO SUPPORT HIM.
ACTUALLY, I WANT TO SEE MIKI-KUN AGAIN.


I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT I ACTUALLY PUT ON DISGUISE JUST TO SEE MIKI-KUN.
WHAT A LOSER.
THE MATCH HAS BEGUN!

HOW COME I CAN ONLY SEE THE SUPPORTERS FROM HIGASHI-YAMA?
AREN'T THE YAMABUKI STUDENTS GOING TO COME TO SUPPORT OUR TEAM TOO?
Miki-kun! Do your best! Good luck!
FIGHT, HIGASHI-YAMA!
AS USUAL, ALL THE GIRLS ARE AFTER HIM.
IT CAN'T BE HELPED. ANYONE WOULD ADMIT THAT HE'S REALLY COOL.
BUT...
2 1
0 0

YAMABUKI'S BASEBALL CLUB?
ANYWAY, WHAT'S UP WITH...
THEY CAN'T HIT THE BALL,
AND THEY CAN'T CATCH IT EITHER.
Hello.
JUST STANDING AND SMILING WITHOUT DOING ANYTHING?
AND WHY IS THE PITCHER...

WHATEVER, IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH ME.
I BETTER GO HOME BEFORE SOMEONE RECOGNIZES ME.
MIKI-KUN!
WEARING MY DISGUISE...
HARUKA-CHAN!
NO WAY!
WHY DO I HAVE TO BUMP INTO HIM NOW?

Why are you wearing sunglasses? I had no idea it was you until now
I DIDN'T EXPECT ANYONE TO COME TO SUPPORT US.
BUT THEN, I SAW THAT SOMEONE CAME AND IT TURNED OUT TO BE HARUKA-CHAN.
SSSH. SSSH.
I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT HARUKA-CHAN REALLY CAME FOR US!
SO YOU CAME TO SUPPORT US AFTER ALL. THANKS!
HUH?
BUMP
Ouch
STOP CALLING ME "HARUKA-CHAN! HARUKA-CHAN!" WITH THAT LOUD VOICE OF YOURS!
UUMPH
HARUKA?
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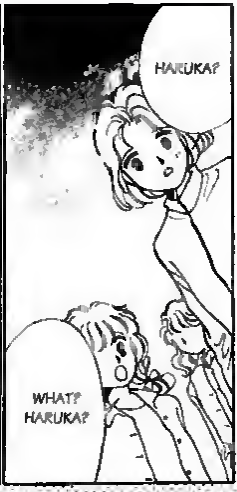
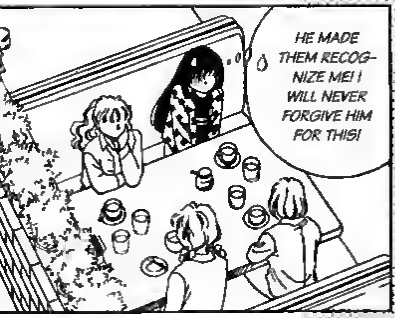
AH.
SORRY.
OUCH.
WHY DID HE APOLOGIZE?

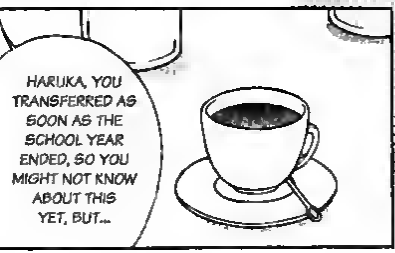
COULD IT BE THAT...?
HE COMPLETELY MISREAD THE SITUATION?
DID HE THINK THAT SOMETHING WAS GOING ON BETWEEN ME AND ONO?!
...
He can't breath.
HEEEY!
HARUKA-CHAN! OOO!, HARUKA-CHAN!
STOP CALLING ME THAT!
ISN'T SHE...?

WE'VE ALL BEEN WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
WANNA JOIN US? WE'RE GOING TO THE TEA HOUSE.

AH!
YOU SHOULD'VE CALLED US BEFORE YOU CAME.
I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE GOING TO THE PRACTICE MATCH.


HARUKA?
WHAT? HARUKA?

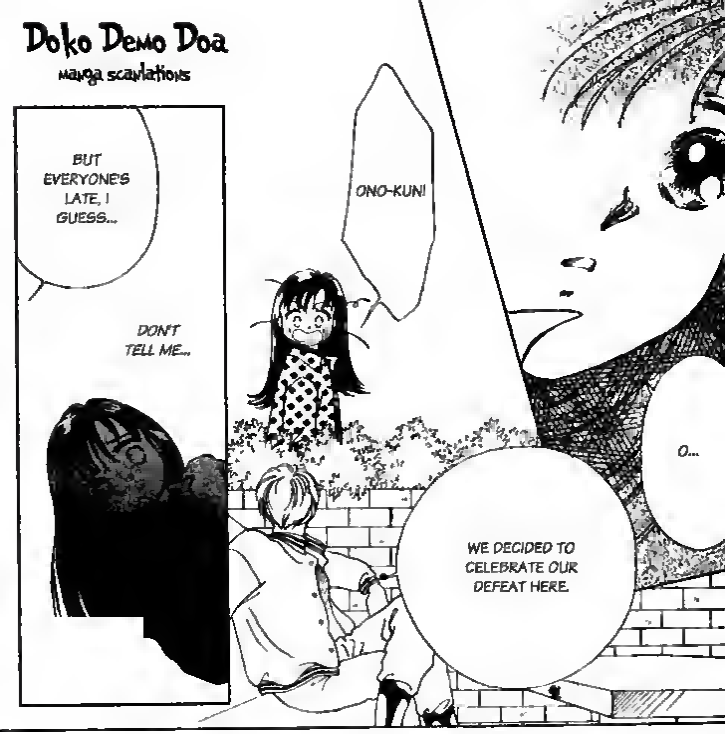

HE MADE THEM RECOGNIZE ME! I WILL NEVER FORGIVE HIM FOR THIS!


HARUKA, YOU TRANSFERRED AS SOON AS THE SCHOOL YEAR ENDED, SO YOU MIGHT NOT KNOW ABOUT THIS YET, BUT...

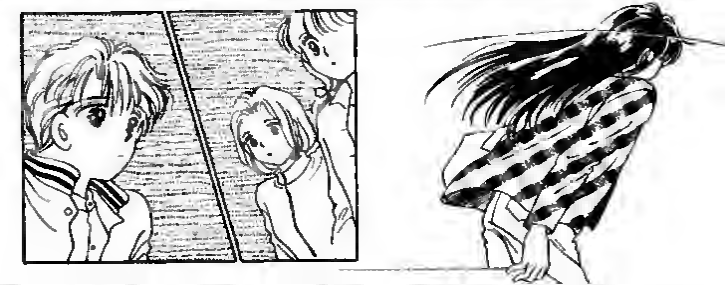
TEA HOUSE
HOW UNLUCKY!

RUMOR HAS IT THAT MIKI-KUN HAS BEEN GETTING ALONG VERY WELL WITH THE NEW MANAGER OF THE BASEBALL TEAM.
YOU'RE A FAN OF MIKI-KUN TOO, AREN'T YOU?
WE DON'T KNOW FOR SURE YET IF THEY REALLY ARE DATING OR NOT.
BUT WE'RE STILL REALLY SHOCKED!
IS THAT SO?
MIKI-KUN IS DATING THE NEW TEAM MANAGER...
SO? HOW'S LIFE?
AH.
EVERYTHING'S FINE. NOTHING SPECIAL.
EH?
BUT I CAN'T ACCEPT IT. HOW COULD THEY FAIL HARUKA BECAUSE SHE COULDN'T ATTEND SCHOOL?
IT WASN'T HER FAULT. HARUKA WAS ALWAYS GETTING THE BEST SCORES IN TESTS...

I UNDERSTAND WHY YOU TRANSFERRED TO ANOTHER SCHOOL, HARUKA.
I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT THIS ANY-MORE.
PLEASE, STOP.
ANYWAY,
I HAVE TO GO HOME NOW.
I JUST REMEMBERED THAT I HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT TO DO...
YO!



HE HEARD ALL OF THAT CONVERSATION BEFORE?!



JEEZ! I WANTED...
TO KEEP IT A SECRET UNTIL I GRADUATION!
BUT NOW ONE OF MY CLASS-MATES HAS FOUND OUT!
RUMOR HAS IT MIKI-KUN HAS BEEN GETTING ALONG VERY WELL WITH THE BASEBALL TEAM'S NEW MANAGER.
SORRY...
I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
WHAT WENT WRONG?!

AH.
HARUKA-CHAN.
WHAT NOW?! YOU HEARD ALL THAT AND NOW YOU'RE FOLLOWING ME?!
I WASN'T TRYING TO EAVESDROP, BUT.
I COULDN'T HELP HEAR-ING.
AH, SORRY.

SO WHAT?!
AND THAT'S WHY I TRANS-FERRED TO THIS SCHOOL.
IT'S TRUE THAT I HAD TO REPEAT THE 10TH GRADE,
IF YOU FOLLOWING ME JUST BECAUBE YOU PITY ME, I DON'T CARE!
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF SYM-PATHY!
THAT WASN'T WHY I WAS FOLLOWING YOU AT ALL.
WHA...
WHAT IS HE TALKING ABOUT AT A TIME LIKE THIS?!
PLEASE,
OUR TEAM REALLY NEEDS HELP.
I WAS GOING TO ASK YOU TO BECOME OUR TEAM'S MAN-AGER.
THAT WAS ALL I WAS GOING TO SAY.

AS YOU KNOW, I'M A YEAR OLDER THAN EVERYONE ELSE.
I DON'T WANT TO BECOME YOUR BASEBALL TEAM'S MANAGER!
I JUST WANT TO GRADUATE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
AND I HAVE NO INTENTION OF JOINING YOUR BASEBALL CLUB EITHER!
I'M NOT ENJOYING MY HIGH SCHOOL YEARS AT ALL!

ARE YOU...
THREATENING ME?
HOW ABOUT THIS? I WILL LET YOU GO ONCE WE'VE WON AT LEAST ONE MATCH.
UNTIL THEN, WILL YOU BECOME THE TEAM'S MANAGER?
IF I AGREE TO BE YOUR MANAGER, WILL YOU PROMISE NOT TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT MY SECRET?
WHY IS THIS HAPPENING TO ME?
SURE, WHY NOT?
JUST AS I THOUGHT!

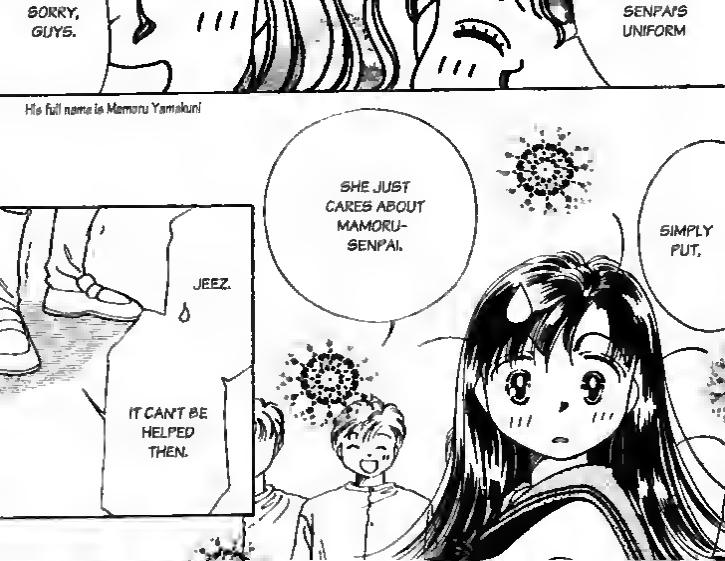
BECOMING A BASEBALL TEAM MANAGER...

IS NOT WHAT I CAME TO THIS SCHOOL TO DO!

BUT THERE WERE A FEW YEARS WHEN IT WAS INACTIVE BECAUSE NOBODY WANTED TO JOIN OUR CLUB.
IT'S BEEN AROUND FOR 20 YEARS.
Good luck!
WHAT DID YOU SAY?!
SINCE OUR CLUB HAS NOT WON A SINGLE MATCH IN IT'S ENTIRE HISTORY.
THAT'S A SHAME.
HARUKA-SAN? WHY ARE YOU HERE?
HARUNA...
EH?
SO EVERYONE IS ALREADY HERE?
HAVEN'T YOU HEARD YET? I'M A BASEBALL TEAM MANAGER.
ARE YOU KIDDING ME? SO YOU ALREADY HAVE A MANAGER!

HARUNA-CHAN IS THE MANAGER FOR MAMORU-SENPAI ONLY.
IN THAT CASE, I'M NOT NEEDED ANYMORE, AM I?
WAIT A SEC!
I JUST WANT TO WASH MAMORU-SENPAI'S UNIFORM
SORRY, GUYS.

His full name is Mamoru Yamakuni



SWEEP THE FLOOR? DO THE LAUNDRY?
SO, WHAT'S MY FIRST CHORE?
IF SO, GIVE ME A BUCKET AND I'LL SWEEP UP RIGHT AWAY!
I'LL BE YOUR MANAGER UNTIL WE WIN A MATCH!
FINE!
IT'S TRUE THAT SORT OF THING IS YOUR DUTY AS A MANAGER, BUT...
THE MOST IMPORTANT THING IS...
THIS!

WHAT'S THIS?
IN OUR CLUB,
THE MANAGER IS NOT JUST A "MANAGER",
BUT SHE IS ALSO...
A "PLAYER".

HARUKA NISHIWAKI.
NUMBER 9, RIGHT FIELD.
BUT YESTERDAY'S MATCH...
YESTERDAY, WE GOT SOME HELP FROM MEMBERS OF THE ATHLETIC CLUB.
WHAT?!
SINCE OUR TEAM SUCKS, NOBODY WANTED TO JOIN US THIS YEAR.
LET'S DO OUR BEST AND GET OUR FIRST VICTORY!
OKAY, GUYS, WE HAVE 9 PEOPLE NOW.
Yooosh!
WE ONLY HAVE 8 PLAYERS.

WAIT A MINUTE!
YOU'RE KIDDING, RIGHT?
HEY! GUYS!
OOO!!
WHAT'S GOING ON?

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